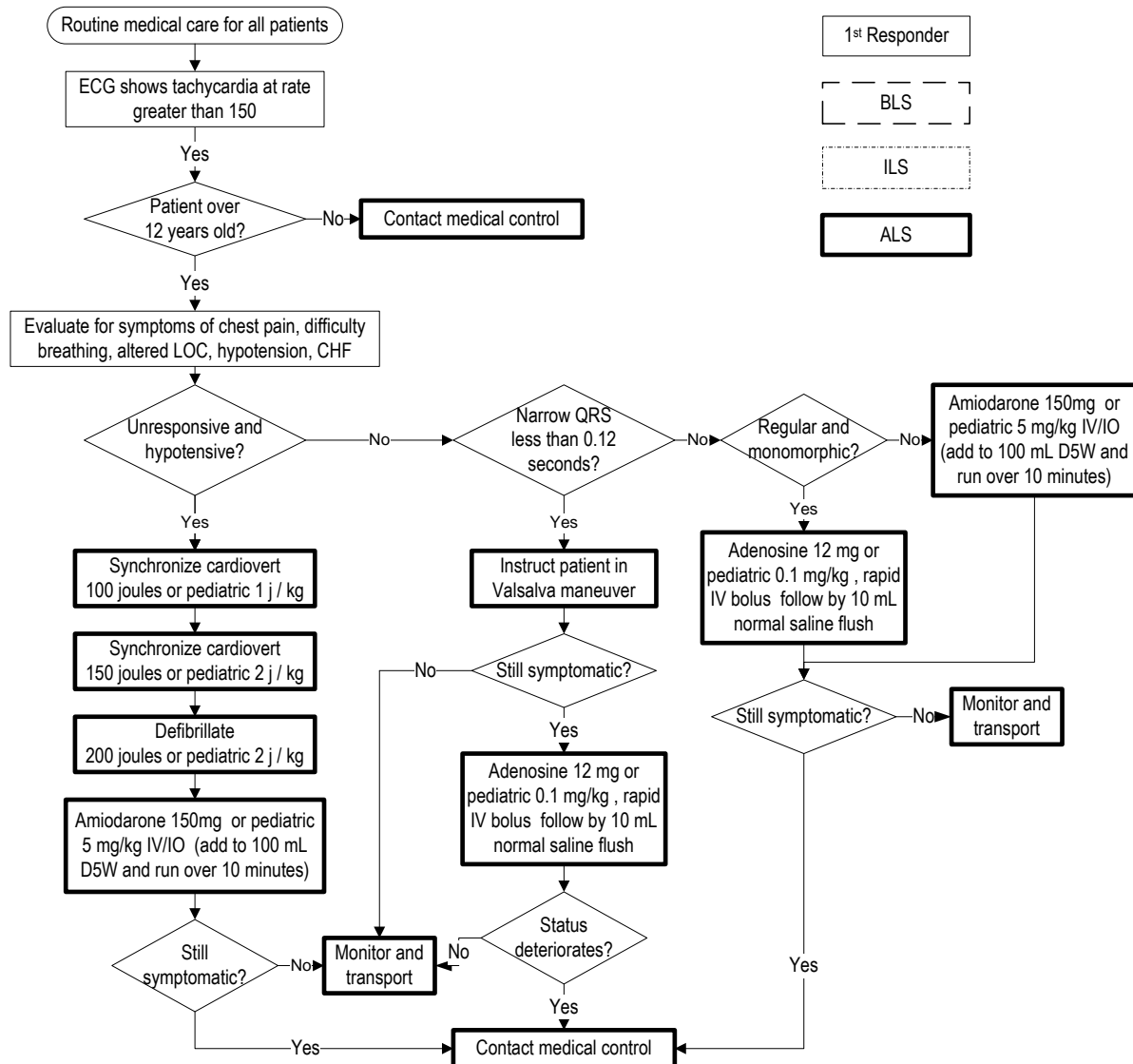


Initiated: 5/22/98
Reviewed/revised: 7/1/11
Revision: 7

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS
MEDICAL PROTOCOL
TACHYCARDIA WITH PULSES**

Approved by: Ronald Pirrallo, MD, MHSA
WI EMS Approval Date: 6/22/11
Page 1 of 1

History	Signs/Symptoms	Working Assessment
Arrhythmia History of palpitations or "racing heart" AICD MI CHF History of stimulant ingestion	Systolic blood pressure <90 Altered LOC, dizziness Chest pain Shortness of breath Diaphoresis Palpitations ECG shows tachycardia greater than 150/min	Tachycardia



NOTES:

- Contraindications to adenosine are: heart block, heart transplant, resuscitated cardiac arrest; patients taking theophylline products, Tegretol (carbamazepine, which increases the degree of heart blocks caused by adenosine) or Persantine (dipyridamole, which potentiates the affects of adenosine).
- Because of its short half-life, adenosine must be administered rapid IV bolus followed by a 10 cc normal saline flush
- After administration of adenosine, patient may have a disorganized ECG or brief period of asystole prior to conversion to sinus rhythm. Patients have reported feelings of "impending doom" during this period.
- Adenosine is not effective on atrial fibrillation.
- Carotid massage is not to be performed in the Milwaukee County EMS System.